



# Whiteshill Weekly News

We are curious, we are unique, we are together, we are Whiteshill!

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21/11/19

As you know, this term, Elm, Maple and Oak class have been finding out all about geography in our 'We are Geographers' topic. They have learnt a range of geographical skills and knowledge; how to navigate with a map and understand keys and grid references, how to read a compass, globe and atlas to find out information about different places. We have bought new resources to ensure the children's geography learning is accurate and up to date. This has included 30 new blow-up globes (saves on storage!), new infant and junior atlases, a subscription to DigiMaps which is an online service the children have used to create their own digital maps of anywhere in the world! We have also brought a class set of compasses and binoculars which the children have used to look at the local area and observe real-life human and physical features. We hope they have enjoyed their geography learning as much as the teachers have!

Now that we are past half term, the geography focus has shifted to learning place knowledge. Elm class are busy finding out about Kenya, Maple class are working in groups to find out about a country in Europe and Oak class are applying their knowledge to North and South America.

At the end of term, the children would like to share with you what they have learnt. So each class will be holding an event which they would like to invite you to as follows:

**Elm class** will be leading an assembly on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm in the school hall. All Elm class parents are invited so please do come along if you can.

On the afternoon of Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, **Maple class** will be opening up their classroom to share what they have learnt. All parents across the school are welcome to come at any point from 2.15pm onwards until the end of the school day. The children will be in the classroom for all of this time and you can go around each group hearing about what they have learnt.

During this afternoon, **Oak class** will be leading a presentation in the hall which will start at 2pm. This is a sit down presentation and again, all parents are welcome. We are hoping the timings will mean that those parents who have siblings in both classes will be able to watch the presentation at 2pm and then visit Maple class after it finishes between 2.45 and 3.15pm. Fingers crossed all will go to plan but as it is the first time we have done this; no doubt it will be a learning curve!

Please make sure Elm, Maple and Oak children have black jogging bottoms and a black hoodie (school ones are available from Batemans in Stroud) in their PE kits from now on for the winter period.

Thank you to everyone who supported our wear your own clothes day for Children in Need. All together we raised £87.60.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Athletics Competition	Group of y4/5/6 children
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> November	New Age Kurling Competition	Group from Maple class
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Brass Performance – 9am	Maple Class
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Friends of Whiteshill School Festive Fayre after school in the hall 3.30 – 5.30pm	Whole School
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Swimming Gala	Group from Oak class
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu Immunisations	Whole School
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Friends of Whiteshill School Christmas Disco Infants – 3.30 – 5.00pm (Willow and Elm) Juniors – 5.15 – 6.45 (Maple and Oak)	Whole School
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Play – 6pm	Whole School
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Play – 2pm	Whole School
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch	
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Forest School	Whole School – parents invited!

As you may know, Maple class have been enjoying whole class brass tuition with a specialist teacher from Gloucestershire Music this term. On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 9am, they will be doing a short performance for parents to show you what they have learnt in their 10 sessions this term. All maple class parents are welcome to come up to the hall once the bell has gone to see them perform if you are able.

Please find attached below a joint letter from the school, the parish council, Gloucestershire Highways and Gloucestershire Constabulary with regards to parking outside of school at the start and end of the school day.

There is also some information about a free event for parents at the Subscription Rooms in Stroud this weekend run by Gloucestershire Constabulary – An Adult’s Guide to Keeping Children Safe Online.

The photographs from the Harvest Festival are now on our website at:

<http://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery-2/>

Willow class parents – please look out for an email asking you to sign up to Target Tracker for parents this week, as detailed in a previous letter. Any questions, please ask Mrs Woods or Miss Francis.



## Christmas Hamper Raffle



Our Christmas Hampers are back by popular demand!

Friends of Whiteshill School are asking for donations to go into some Christmas Hampers. Items such as festive conserves, crackers, wine, chocolates, biscuits and bath products. There is a collection box in reception for these donations. Please can all donations be received by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> of November. The raffle will then take place at the Festive Fayre on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December. Raffle tickets will be sold by Friends of Whiteshill School at the book fair and also during The Festive Fayre.

### Teddy Tombola Donations

We're planning to have a teddy tombola at The Festive Fayre and would love donations of soft toys for this please (clean and not torn please.) Please put them in the same box as hamper raffle donations.

Thank you for your continued support!





Gloucestershire Constabulary

Dear Parents

Whiteshill and Ruscombe Parish Council, your local PCSO Gary Lynch, Whiteshill Primary School and Gloucestershire Highways are currently working in partnership to encourage better parking outside of school.

During school drop off and pick up times, the traffic situation along Main Road, Whiteshill can become very busy, creating potential hazardous situations for your children and families. We all want our children to be safe and be able to cross the road to go to school and access the village amenities such as the playing field and play area etc.

The above partnership group would like to remind all drivers to be considerate in their nature to keep each other safe. Please be mindful of the legal speed limit throughout the village (which is 20mph). You may be aware that the Parish Council has an ANPR camera which is moveable within the village and records speeds of vehicles; high speeders are then alerted to the police. We also ask that you park considerately within the neighbourhood, particularly at these busy times, avoiding the zigzag lines outside of school and the white lined area opposite the entrance to the playing field and shop.

The Parish Council provide a car park on the playing field but appreciate this gets full. We also know that often people live further away from school but if you are in a position to walk your children or lift share, please consider this to make parking easier for those who do not have an option.

The Parish Council are working with Whiteshill Primary School, PCSO Gary Lynch and Gloucestershire Highways to look at options with regards to putting some form of parking enforcement / or modification in place on both the zigzag lines outside school and the entrance to the playing field. This could mean potential penalty notices for those who continue to park in these areas during pick up and drop off times, as this is when congestion becomes worse, with cars and buses unable to pass each other due to inconsiderate parking and vision compromised for drivers. Whiteshill Primary School, the Police and Whiteshill and Ruscombe Parish Council also regularly receive many complaints regarding inconsiderate parking.

If anyone has other ideas that could help in this situation, we would be happy to hear about them and look into the possibilities / options. How could you help? What would you be willing to do? Sometimes the best ideas come from the community itself.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and thank you in anticipation for your support. We look forward to receiving your thoughts and suggestions.

Yours faithfully

Helen Dunn (Parish Clerk)

Heather Francis (Headteacher)

PCSO Gary Lynch

Dan Tiffney (Gloucestershire Highways)

**Stroud Neighbourhood Policing Team  
Host**



*Keeping Young People Safe Online  
An Adult's Guide*

**Stroud Subscription Rooms**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 0900 – 1630**

**FREE information sessions about;**

**School-Beat**



**Cyber Safety**



**Sexting**



**The Effect of Online Pornography on  
Young People**



**Two FREE performances of;**



**Chelsea's Story**

**A production by the Alter-Ego Theatre Company**



**Plus the chance to talk to  
Partners & Support Services**



**For further information visit;**

**[stroudnpt.eventbrite.com](http://stroudnpt.eventbrite.com)**



Funded by Stroud District Community Safety Partnership